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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: J. Daly et al.
Serial No: 10/081,655
Filing Date: February 22, 2002
Title: Absorption Spectroscopy Apparatus and Method
Docket No: 56326-039 (IOPL-118)

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Add new claims 23 through 44 as follows:

23. (New) A sample cell for an absorption spectroscopy apparatus comprising:

at least one side wall having,

a reflective surface facing inwardly with respect to an axis of the sample cell such that a beam of energy directed against a predetermined location on the reflective surface is reflected back and forth off the reflective surface and inside the sample cell, and

at least one port; and

end walls closing opposing ends of the side and having substantially flat reflective surfaces facing inwardly with respect to the cell and extending substantially normal with respect to the axis such that a beam of energy reflected back and forth off the reflective surface of the side wall and inside the sample cell remains in substantially the same plane while inside the cell.

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